MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Conference with Mr. Allan Evans, Director, and Mr. Philip Tresise of the
Office of Intelligence Research, Department of State. (23 July 1953)

1. Mr. Evans expressed an appreciation for the increasing cooperation
between ORR and his Agency. One respect in which he thought it might be
further improved was by coordination, through the Economic Intelligence
Committee, of the research program in advance of inauguration.

2. Mr. Tresise suggested that ORR working papers and other informal
reports would be more useful if they could give fuller documentation of
sources and methods. Also in such papers the data in the tables sometimes
are not identified as to the units used or the precise coverage of the data.

3. Short abstracts or summaries of ORR reports were considered to be
very desirable. OIR frequently is called upon to make such abstracts. Each
of their own reports is usually preceded by an abstract or gist of the report
(not merely the conclusions) but such abstracts are not published separately.
Mr. Evans suggested that it would be particularly helpful to his organization
if such summaries of ORR reports could, whenever possible, give the essential
facts on a subject but without including information of the very highest
security classification.

4. I raised a question with regard to the need for a periodical review
of the major economic developments in the Soviet Orbit possibly four times
a year. Mr. Evans referred to their monthly publication "Soviet Affairs"
which deals with both economic and political matters. Mr. Evans recognized
that ORR capabilities for research in the economic field were much greater
than those of OIR or any other intelligence agency. He suggested, however,
that if such a periodic review of economic developments were undertaken
that it might be desirable to have the benefit of the cooperation of all of
the intelligence agencies, possibly through the Economic Intelligence
Committee.

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